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Maine Library Commission Minutes, March 17, 2014

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Maine State Library Commission

****MINUTES – March 17, 2014****

Meeting called to order at 1:00PM.

Attendance:

Commission Members Present: Beth Edmonds (Chair), Joyce Rumery (Vice Chair), Jeff Cabral, Charlie Campo (video), Helen Fogler, Dick Thompson, Debe Averill (video), Barbara McDade, Art Turley, Mike Hayes

Also present: Linda Lord, James Ritter, Janet McKenney, Deborah Clark, Adam Fisher, Valerie Osborne (video), and James Jackson Sanborn

- Minutes from the January 21, 2014 meeting were approved.

Maine InfoNet Update (James Jackson Sanborn):

- Indicated that a grant request for \$2.7M had been submitted to the Maine NextGen grant program.
- Expanding existing office space for Maine InfoNet and is in the process for hiring for Alisia Revitt's former position.
- Provided an update relating to Triple I (III)
 - URSUS migration to begin in July and other systems monthly thereafter
 - The Sierra Lite (small library) system will go live with approx. two libraries in the fall of 2014 to bet-test and work out issues. Additional libraries to come on later in 2014.
 - Minerva: Maine InfoNet recommended Minerva inclusion into Sierra system (i.e. no separate Minerva consortia), however the Minerva Board was split on that recommendation.
 - Minerva will remain as a group within the new Sierra structure. Minerva could 'technically' peak-out (size) but that is not a concern at this point in time

Review of the Strategic Plan Report:

Significant discussion was designated to reviewing activities and updates associated with the Strategic Plan. L. Lord, J. McKenney, and J. Ritter provided substantial updates on all aspects of MSLs operation. The update also covered the Library Development Department (including Consultants) report as well as a Reader and Information Services Department, and the Friends of the Maine State Library reports.

The actual Strategic Plan report will be made part of these official minutes and can be viewed in full.

CERC (Cultural Emergency Resources Coalition) Update (Jeff Cabral):

- Heritage Preservation (based out of DC) is the original group whose forum spawned the CERC group. We had a Statewide Heritage Emergency Partnership follow-up call with HP and they are extremely pleased with the results of the work coming out of Maine.
- CERC Maine applied for a \$50,000 grant application to Jane's Trust to allow for FEMA Core Members to conduct disaster training for cultural agencies in Maine. The group will know at the end of April 2014 if they are invited to submit a full grant application.
- CERC will be represented at a variety of upcoming events, including a New England disaster planning summit in Portsmouth and the Maine Emergency Preparedness forum in April. Ellen Dyer is working on developing content and lining up speakers for upcoming workshops on the topics of general disaster planning, digital disaster planning, and emergency salvage of collections. These will be held in spring and early summer
- Work continues on website development, and a logo for CERC has nearly been finalized

State Librarian Report (key points not highlighted in the Strategic Plan):

- Continue to put out the word relating to the Income Tax Check-off
- Preparing an RFP for a single search function for MARVEL!
- Melanie Mohny (MSL Reference and Special Collections Librarian) has been selected to the Northern Document (NEDCC) Advisory Board
- Monitoring budget discussions closely as it pertains to FY14 supplemental and/or adjustments to FY15
- Working closely with FCC as it pertains to projects that support libraries in rural areas
- Have identified a possible Commission member nominee to fill the Disabled Representation seat on the Maine Library Commission. Avery Olmstead will attend the May 2014 Commission meeting to observe

Future of Library Leadership (Joyce Rumery):

- J. Rumery initiated conversation relating to the recent administrative actions concerning Library Director positions at some of the University of Maine System's universities.
- Significant discussion ensued as it pertains to the Maine State Library Commission's role in "weighing in" and/or staking a position on the individual university actions.
- All agreed that a letter to the Chancellor of the university of Maine System would be prudent, and would serve as a method of engagement for the Commission to indicate concern.
- Motion was made to have letter in support of libraries drafted and subsequently reviewed and approved at the May 19, 2014 Commission Meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Other Business:

- J.Cabral discussed the FAB Lab project taking place in Scarborough and referenced that staff of the FAB Lab have reached out to MSL to seek guidance and possible representation on a steering committee.

Motion made to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:16 PM.

Next meeting is May 19, 2014 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Secretary

James Ritter
MSL, Director of Reader and Information Services